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Rural District Council of Highworth

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND HOUSING OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1956





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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
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AND HOUSING OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1956

Highworth Rural District Council

1956.

Chairman of the Council:

NORMAN LESLIE WHATLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

JOHN HOWARD PITMAN.

Clerk to the Council:

WILFRED S. G. MILLS.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

All Members of the Council.

Chairman:—JAMES BRAWLEY.

Vice-Chairman:—WALTER H. HAYWARD.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE:

All Members of the Council.

Chairman:—EDMUND F. BOULTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:—MRS. ELSIE T. CONSTABLE.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District of Highworth

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1956.

My predecessor resigned on April 30th and Dr. R. MacKay, of Marlborough, stood by in an advisory capacity until I commenced duties in September.

The environmental aspects are completely covered in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report. In connection with this report I have to emphasise certain of my own observations.

- (a) An important part is played by Public Health Inspectors in making enquiries and arranging for laboratory investigations when cases of infectious disease are notified. Arrangements for laboratory examination of specimens is of assistance to the family doctor in charge of the actual patient and, where contacts are concerned, of assistance in making decisions of a preventive nature.

I am particularly grateful to all the Public Health Inspectors for their assistance in the investigation of cases of infectious disease.

- (b) Ante and post mortem meat inspection should be 100%. Where there is much of this type of work in a district it necessarily affects the establishment of Inspectors but this is fully justified.
- (c) For water-sampling to be of any value it must be comprehensive and according to a routine. The possible effect of foot and mouth disease burials on water supplies was investigated and thereby drew attention to certain fundamental defects in some of the smaller supplies in this rural district.

Chemical sampling of water supplies as a whole indicated two points which must be kept in mind in the future:—

- (i) the high level of separable iron,
- (ii) the very low fluoride level.

Both these points will one day require adjustment.

- (d) Systematic inspection of school premises was undertaken by the Public Health Inspectors.

The section of the report compiled by myself, in which I have attempted to preserve the form of previous years, provides a number of statistical records which show that this district compared favourably with the remainder of the country, apart from a prevalence of dysentery in Wroughton and Chisledon. It is my view, however, that minor forms of dysentery have been more or less

endemic in parts of England and Wales for several years and these outbreaks are only brought to light on those occasions when bacteriological investigations are intensified.

During the three months of 1956 when I held the appointment of Medical Officer of Health, the most outstanding events were the outbreaks of foot and mouth disease amongst cattle and the passage of a large number of Hungarian refugees through Chisledon camp.

The outbreak of foot and mouth disease was the signal for an exhaustive laboratory investigation of the water supplies derived from gathering grounds in which there were burials of carcasses. I have already referred to the results of these investigations.

The Hungarian refugees were the subject of a controversy regarding the advisability or otherwise of some form of routine radiological investigation of these entrants to the country. The outcome was that it was considered more practicable to follow-up these immigrants when they reached more settled destinations.

The work of the Medical Officer of Health of this district is fully integrated with the work of the Chief Public Health Inspector. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Underwood for placing the resources of his department at my disposal whenever possible and at all times assisting me in making the best use of the small time available with this authority.

I have to repeat my gratitude to the Public Health Inspectors for their assistance in investigating infectious disease. Without this assistance I could not follow up notified cases in the time at my disposal. I am also indebted to the other Officers of the Council for their welcome to me and assistance in becoming familiar with the district.

I thank the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their courtesy and support.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. KERSHAW,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AS AT

31st December, 1956.

Medical Officer of Health

J. B. KERSHAW, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council, Assistant County and School Medical Officer, Wiltshire County Council), as from 11th September, 1956.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer

A. G. UNDERWOOD, CERT. S.I.B., F.A.P.H.I., MEAT AND FOOD CERT., CERT. NAT. INST. BUILDERS.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector

H. S. CARTWRIGHT, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., M.A.P.H.I. MEAT AND FOOD CERT., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

K. C. CLARK, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., M.A.B.H.I., MEAT AND FOOD CERT.
G. S. WRIGHT, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., M.A.P.H.I. MEAT AND FOOD CERT.,
as from 18th December, 1956.

Assistant Housing Officers

L. ROWLAND, A.R.I.P.H.H., A.I.H., A.R.S.H.
A. W. J. MABBUTT.
F. D. MARSH.

Clerical Staff

MRS. J. A. DAVEY—Shorthand Typist, as from 30th July, 1956.
MISS S. ENGLAND—Shorthand Typist, as from 8th August, 1956.
(Services shared with Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council and Wiltshire County Council.)

COUNCIL OFFICES,
17, BATH ROAD,
SWINDON, WILTS.

Telephone Nos.: Swindon 4847/8/9.

GENERAL STATISTICS

	1956
Area of the District (Acres).	48,549
Number of Parishes	14
Estimated Population	23,500
Number of Inhabited Houses	6,446
Rateable Value	£218,071
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£996
Number of Houses erected in 1956:	
(a) By Private Enterprise	98
(b) By Local Authority	194
Total number of Houses owned or administered by the Council	1,969
Number of Houses built post-war by the Council	1,064
Number of Houses built by Private Enterprise	420
Number of Domestic Dwellings connected to mains water supply in Highworth R.D.C. Water Undertaking Area in 1956	95
Number of Domestic Dwellings connected to mains water supply in Swindon Borough Water Undertaking Area in 1956	260

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	185	189	374
Illegitimate	6	9	15
Total number of live births	191	198	389

Live birth rate per 1,000 population (corrected)	.	.	16.6
Live birth rate for England and Wales	.	.	15.7
Comparability factor for the District	.	.	1.07

Still Births:

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of still births	4	3	7

Deaths:

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 129, Female 88).Total	217
Death rate per 1,000 population (corrected)	10.1
Death rate for England and Wales	11.7
Comparability factor for England and Wales	1.10

Infant Mortality:

Death of Infants under 1 year of age.

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	—	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths	5	—	5

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	—	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths	5	—	5

Infant Death Rate.

(Number of infant deaths under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	12.8
Infant Death Rate for England and Wales	23.8

Births—Comparative Figures.

Year	1954	1955	1956
Births	364	371	389

Deaths—Comparative Figures.

Year	1954	1955	1956
Deaths	197	187	217

Infant Mortality—Comparative Figures.

Year	1954	1955	1956
Infant Deaths	14	6	5

Causes of Death.

Causes	Male	Female
Tuberculosis (Lungs)	2	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
Malignant new growth, stomach	3	3
Malignant new growth, lungs	8	1
Malignant new growth, breast	—	1
Malignant new growth, uterus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic new growths	13	11
Diabetes	1	—
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	15	16
Coronary disease, angina	16	9
High blood pressure with heart disease	2	3
Other heart disease	22	25
Other circulatory disease	8	5
Influenza	—	2
Pneumonia	4	1
Bronchitis	14	1
Other disease of the respiratory system	2	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2
Gastro enteritis and diarrhœa	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Congenital malformations	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	7
Motor vehicle accidents	4	2
All other accidents	—	1
Suicide	—	1
Total, all causes	129	88

Comparative Figures—causes of death in previous years.

Lung Cancer.

Year	1954	1955	1956
Deaths	3 Males	7 Males	1 Female 8 Males

Coronary Disease.

Year	1954	1955	1956
Deaths	11 Males 12 Females	14 Males 10 Females	16 Males 9 Females

Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System.

	1954	1955	1956
Deaths	13 Males 14 Females	7 Males 15 Females	15 Males 16 Females

All Deaths from Cancer.

	1954	1955	1956
Deaths	13 Males 22 Females	20 Males 19 Females	24 Males 17 Females

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE. Notified Cases.

Disease	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	19	14	15
Whooping Cough	128	67	15
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Measles	13	360	16
Pneumonia	7	2	10
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	2
Dysentery	5	5	213
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	2	6 (N.P.4)
Erysipelas	1	2	1
Food Poisoning	—	6	2
TOTAL	175	459	280

DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

	Straton	Highborth	Wroughton	Chisledon	Haydon Wick	Castle Eaton	South Marston	Liddington	Wanborough	Bishopstone	Stanton Fitzwarren	Blunsdon	Inglesham	Hannington	TOTAL
Measles	8	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	16
Whooping Cough	2	1	3	1	—	3	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	15
Scarlet Fever	4	—	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Dysentery	3	—	129	78	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	213
Food Poisoning	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	2	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	10
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTAL	21	2	151	89	—	3	—	1	8	1	—	3	1	—	280

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases.

Year	No. of Cases
1954 . . .	32
1955 . . .	38
1956 . . .	31

Of the 31 new cases notified during 1956 two were of the non-pulmonary type viz. boys aged 13 and 5 with tuberculosis of the hip joint and neck glands respectively.

It is estimated that, excluding patients in the R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F. Hospitals at Wroughton, there are between 130 and 140 patients normally resident in the district who have not yet been discharged as cured of tuberculosis. An extensive review of the old tuberculosis register was commenced in the Autumn of 1956 and a large number of patients were found to have been cured or to have left the district. This review also demonstrated that approximately one quarter of the tuberculosis patients in the district were resident on the Council's main housing estates, having been rehoused by the Council.

Housing of Tuberculosis Patients.

Tuberculosis is believed to be spread by over-crowding and poverty.

Cases for rehousing were classified as follows:—

Certificate No. 1. Sputum-positive cases where rehousing is considered urgent for prevention of infection.

Certificate No. 2. Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

Certificate No. 3. Where rehousing would be beneficial but is not an urgent matter.

The following is a summary of cases dealt with during the year.

Type of Case	No. of Cases referred	No. of Cases rehoused
Certificate No. 1 . . .	—	—
No. 2 . . .	—	—
No. 3 . . .	—	—
Special letter from Chest Physician . .	2	1*

*1 was rehoused outside district.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Age Group		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
Primary imms. completed during 1956.	Dip.	149	60	—	23	—	31	4	267
	Wh/c.	134	54	—	11	—	5	—	204
Reinf. inj. administered during 1956	Dip.	—	—	—	32	—	217	31	280
	Wh/c.	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	10
Total immunised child population at 31/12/1956	Pre 1/1/52	—	—	—	1	—	273	940	1213
	Post 1/1/52	73	175	187	236	230	1157	563	2621

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age Group	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations .	110	10	9	—	14
Re-vaccinations .	—	—	—	8	34

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the figures in the above tables. Immunisation against Whooping Cough and Diphtheria is carried out by family doctors, at the County Council Welfare Centres and periodically at schools.

Vaccination against smallpox is carried out by family doctors.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47, Removal of persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises.

In no case was it found necessary to take proceedings under this section. An increasing number of elderly persons are referred to the department from year to year. It is a matter of policy to make maximum use of existing services, public and voluntary and, for as long as possible, enable elderly persons to live in their own houses.

OTHER HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

Laboratory Facilities.

Swindon Area Pathological Laboratory of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board caters for the needs of the district.

Hospital Facilities.

These are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

The main general hospitals are situated at Stratton St. Margaret and Swindon, which also provide accommodation for maternity cases in a separate institution.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Area Isolation Hospital, Swindon. The nearest smallpox hospital is at Reading.

Cases under the National Assistance Act, 1948, are admitted to Elm Court, Stratton St. Margaret.

Other Facilities.

Arrangements for the following services operating in the District are made by the County Health Committee:—

Care of expectant and nursing mothers, and young children.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Health Visiting.

Home Nursing.

Vaccination and immunisation.

Ambulances and Ambulance Cars.

Domestic Helps.

Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act for the prevention of illness; care and after-care; health education.

Mental Health Service.

**REPORT OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND
HOUSING OFFICER.**

**To The Chairman and Members of
THE HIGHWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have very great pleasure in presenting my 12th Annual Report to the Council showing the work which has been carried out under my supervision for the year 1956.

Once again, I would like to record my thanks for the help and support of the Chairman, Members of the Council and the Public Health and Housing Committees in all matters relating to the working of my Department, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Medical Officer of Health, the other Chief Officers and Staffs of the other Departments of the Council for their continued help and assistance on many items during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. G. UNDERWOOD,

Senior Public Health Inspector and
Housing Officer.

June, 1957.

SECTION ONE

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING 1956.

Public Health Acts.

No. of houses inspected for Public Health Reasons .	293
Revisits to above	288
Complaints General	122
Revisits	116
Infectious disease enquiries	626
Disinfection	6
Fæces Samples	324
Visits to Path. Lab..	114
Drainage Inspections	144
Revisits	30
Public Conveniences	5
Refuse Collection	85
Refuse Disposal	344
Provision of Dustbins	37
Water Supplies	149
Water Sampling	240
Streams and Watercourses	26
Keeping of animals	39
Verminous Houses	12
Disinfestation	31
Rodent Control	298
Offensive Trades	10
Knackers Yards	3
Smoke Observations	17
Moveable Dwellings	416
Dealers in Scrap Metal	—
Total	3,775

Food and Drugs Act.

Meat Inspection	572
Bakehouses	34
Butchers' Shops	19
Cafes and Restaurants	10
Wet and Dried Fish Shops	15
General Provisions	227
Works' Canteens, Hostel and School Meals Depot	32
Licensed Premises	7
Delivery Vehicles	16
Other food premises	110
Food Manufacturing premises	13
Ice cream samples	—
Ice cream storage and sale	1
Total	1,056

Milk and Dairies.

Milk Samples	96
Retail Dairies	9
Farms and Dairy Farms	1
Milk Suppliers	25
Total	<u>131</u>

Factories Act.

Factories Inspection	97
Revisits	13
Outworkers	30
Total	<u>140</u>

Housing Acts.

Housing Inspections Section II	55
Revisits to Above	87
Housing Survey	107
Overcrowding	12
Houses licensed for reoccupation	6
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	29
Improvement Grants	97
Visits to Council Houses	1,783
Total	<u>2,176</u>

Miscellaneous.

Shops other than Food Shops	1
Halls and Places of Entertainment	—
Storage of Petroleum	11
Rag Flock Act	—
Interviews and Appointments	3,022
Licensing of Slaughtermen	3
Miscellaneous Public Health Visits	47
National Assistance Act, 1948	2
Schools	11
Total	<u>3,097</u>

GRAND TOTAL 10,375

WATER SUPPLIES

1. Public Supplies.

Number of Public Supplies in the District:—

<i>Source of Supply.</i>	<i>Water Undertakers.</i>	<i>Area of District Supplied.</i>
1. Markham Bottom Supply Gadbourne.	Highworth R.D.C.	Part of Wroughton Parish.
2. Ham Road Supply.	Highworth R.D.C.	Parts of the Parishes of Bishopstone and Wanborough.
3. Ashton Keynes Supply.	Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C.	Castle Eaton.
4. Ogbourne Supply.	Swindon Borough	Rest of the Highworth Rural District Council area.
5. Latton Supply.	Swindon Borough	

All these supplies are chlorinated at source. The supplies from Swindon Borough and Cricklade & Wootton Bassett are chlorinated by efficient automatic means; while in the Markham Bottom, Gadbourne and Ham Road Supplies, the methods used are not as efficient, automatic or as satisfactory as the results over the year 1956 have shown. The Gadbourne and Markham Bottom supplies are dealt with in a later report in more detail.

Complaints were received during the year of objectionable smells, colour and taste of the water supplied by the Swindon Borough, as Water Undertakers to this Authority, and samples were taken and submitted for analysis. The reports indicated that the conditions complained of were due to excessive deposits of iron and lime compounds which have previously been reported upon in the Report of 1955, and while regular flushing of the mains does assist in reducing the conditions complained of, it does not remove the cause, and it may well be that in the foreseeable future adequate and efficient methods of filtration will have to be adopted by the Water Undertakers concerned.

Every effort is being made by the Department to see that all houses are provided with a piped water supply inside the houses, and it is pleasing to note the further increase in the percentage of the population who have a piped water supply, inside the house. Last year the figure was 91·2% and this year it is 92·7% and it will be my endeavour to see standpipes dispensed with as quickly as possible.

DETAILS OF WATER SAMPLES TAKEN IN THE VARIOUS PARISHES

Parish	Total No.: Samples taken. (Chem. and Bact.)	Total No. Satisfactory.	Total No. Unsatis- factory.
Bishopstone	1	1	—
Blunsdon	15	15	—
Castle Eaton	4	4	—
Chisledon	12	12	—
Hannington	2	2	—
Haydon Wick	1	1	—
Highworth	11	9	2
Inglesham	2	2	—
Liddington	4	4	—
South Marston	8	8	—
Stanton Fitzwarren	3	3	—
Stratton St. Margaret	10	10	—
Wanborough	5	5	—
Wroughton	33	27	6
TOTAL	111	103	8

Sampling and Analysis of Public Supplies.

Number of Samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination	100
Number of Samples giving Unsatisfactory Results	8
Number of Samples submitted for Chemical Analysis	11
Number of Samples giving Unsatisfactory Results	—
Number of Samples submitted for Fluoride Test	5
Number of new connections made to the Public Supplies in 1956:—	
(1) To the Swindon Borough Council's Mains as Water Undertakers in the Highworth Rural District Council area	260
(2) To the Highworth Rural District Council's Mains:	
For Domestic Use (Private Property)	58
For Domestic Use (Council Property)	37
For Trade Purposes (Metered)	12
TOTAL CONNECTIONS	367

2. Private Supplies.

Number of Private Water Supplies in the District:—

<i>Source of Supply.</i>	<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Area of District Supplied.</i>
1. Elcombe Supply, Wroughton.	Wiltshire County Council.	Part of Elcombe.
2. Salthrop-Bassett Down.	Mr. Arnold-Forster's Estates.	Part of Wroughton.
3. Draycott Farm.	Calley Estates.	Part of Chisledon.
4. Hodson Supply.	Calley Estates.	Part of Chisledon.
5. Foxhill Supply.	Mr. Morton, Foxhill.	Part of Wanborough
6. Bishopstone Supply.	The Church Commissioners for England.	Bishopstone.

During the year, regular samples were taken of all the Private Supplies, all of which are unchlorinated, and it was found that the Bassett Down, Salthrop and Elcombe Supplies showed serious and regular pollution. The Council, after serious consideration of the problem, recommended that the Engineer and Surveyor be requested to investigate the possibilities of providing the areas with a Public Supply, and failing this being possible, that the Owners of the supplies provide efficient, automatic chlorination to the Salthrop and Bassett Down supplies.

The other supplies are also on occasion, likely to pollution as domestic supplies, and it may well be that similar action will be necessary with regard to the areas supplied in the future.

Parish.	Total No. of Samples taken	Total No. Satisfactory	Total No. Unsatisfactory
BISHOPSTONE: Church Commissioners . . .	6	5	1
CHISLEDON: Hodson	9	8	1
Draycott Farm	5	4	1
Butts Road	3	3	—
HIGHWORTH: Min. of Supply, Sevenhampton	2	2	—
SOUTH MARSTON: Vickers-Armstrongs Ltd. . .	5	5	—
WROUGHTON: Bassett Down/Salthrop House .	33	2	31
Upper Salthrop Farm . . .	12	2	10
Elcombe	14	5	9
WANBOROUGH: Foxhill	2	2	—
TOTAL	91	38	53

Sampling and Analysis of Private Supplies.

Number of Samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination	81
Number of Samples giving Unsatisfactory Results	53

Number of Samples submitted for Chemical Analysis .	10
Number of Samples giving Unsatisfactory Results .	—
Number of Samples submitted for Fluoride Test .	1

3. Individual Supplies.

Due to sampling procedure and action taken during the past 10 years, the amount of shallow well supplies to individual properties is considerably reduced, and they are only found now in outlying areas of the district or where the property is likely to action under the Housing Acts. This has considerably reduced the number of samples taken during 1956. In all cases where it is possible to do so, action is taken to ensure that a mains supply is taken into the houses, and a sink provided. This is referred to at a later stage of the Report.

Parish	Total No. of Samples taken	Total No. Satisfactory	Total No. Unsatis- factory
Blunsdon	1	—	1
Castle Eaton	1	1	—
Chisledon	3	—	3
Wroughton	3	3	—
Highworth	7	3	4
TOTAL	15	7	8

Sampling and Analysis of Individual Supplies.

Number of Samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination	13
Number of Samples giving Unsatisfactory Results .	6
Number of Samples submitted for Chemical Analysis .	2
Number of Samples giving Unsatisfactory Results .	2
<hr/>	
Total Number of Samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination from Public, Private and Individual Supplies	194
Total number of Samples submitted for Chemical Analysis from Public, Private and Individual Supplies	23
Total Number of Samples submitted for Fluoride Test .	6
Total Number of Samples taken—all purposes . . .	223

Action taken under Section 138 of the Public Health Act 1936, Section 30, Water Act 1945, where Individual Water Supplies were sampled and the Bacteriological Examination showed that the existing supplies were unsatisfactory for domestic purposes.

Action under Section 138 Public Health Act 1936.—contd.

- Number of Water Act Notices served during the Year . . . 1
- *Number of Water Act Notices complied with during the Year 13
- Number of Houses connected to Mains as a result of informal action taken 10
- *The number of Water Act Notices complied with was the carry over of Notices served during 1955, and completed in 1956. The details of the premises where the Notices were complied with are as follows:—

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Parish</i>
20, Beechcroft Road	Stratton St. Margaret
22, Beechcroft Road	” ”
38, Beechcroft Road	” ”
40, Beechcroft Road	” ”
48, Beechcroft Road	” ”
16, Ermin Street	” ”
56, Ermin Street	” ”
58, Ermin Street	” ”
62, Ermin Street	” ”
48, St. Philip’s Road	” ”
49, St. Philip’s Road	” ”
500, Cricklade Road	” ”
20, Marlborough Road	Wroughton

In all cases the works necessary to provide a Supply of Water in pipes inside the house were carried out by the Local Authority and the Water Undertakers concerned.

In addition, as a result of informal action, Sinks were provided to 27 Houses.

DETAILS OF COUNCIL OWNED STANDTAPS STILL IN USE IN VARIOUS PARISHES.

Parish	Location of Standtap
Blunsdon . . .	Hunts Hill (3) Blunsdon Hill Broad Bush
Chisledon . . .	Strouds Hill
Castle Eaton . . .	Near School, Back Lane.
Highworth . . .	Sheep Street Cherry Orchard Eastrop Hampton
Bishopstone . . .	Church Farm Cottages Near School
Liddington . . .	} Near “The Bell” The Street
Wroughton . . .	
	Church Road Priors Hill

During the year seven Council owned Standtaps were dispensed with and removed due to the property using the Standtaps being connected direct to the Council’s main water supplies.

**DETAILS OF PARISHES IN HIGHWORTH RURAL DISTRICT WITH NUMBER OF HOUSES AND
POPULATION SUPPLIED WITH MAINS WATER INTO HOUSES OR FROM STANDPIPES.**

Parish	Est. pop.	Approx. No. of Houses	Direct to House			From Standpipes		
			No. hses.	Est. pop.	% pop.	No. hses.	Est. pop.	% pop.
Bishopstone	660	174	98	355	56.3	14	51	8.0
Blunsdon St. Andrew	1,165	346	286	961	82.5	30	108	9.2
Castle Eaton	246	62	32	128	52	16	64	26.0
Chisledon	2,362	568	471	1,965	83.2	25	105	4.8
Hannington	257	72	42	151	58.3	8	29	11.1
Haydon Wick	500	165	163	491	98.2	2	9	1.8
Highworth	3,640	1,001	912	3,310	90.9	56	203	5.6
Inglesham	157	44	40	142	90.9	4	15	9.0
Liddington	375	113	93	308	82.1	14	46	12.3
South Marston	530	157	137	463	87.2	2	7	12.0
Stanton Fitzwarren	178	64	64	178	100	—	—	—
Stratton St. Margaret	7,980	2,361	2,358	7,976	99.9	—	—	—
Wanborough	1,160	304	280	1,064	91.7	17	65	5.6
Wroughton	3,680	1,015	990	3,583	97.4	15	54	1.5
TOTAL	22,890	6,446	5,966	21,075	92.7	203	756	3.3

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

Sample of Gadbourne Supply (Wroughton).

Source: Borehole 155 feet deep. Chlorinated.
Sample taken from: The Gadbourne Waterworks. 7.11.1956.
Appearance: Clear and Bright. Slight smell of Paraffin.
Reaction: *pH 7.20 Fluoride as F. 0.16 p.p. million.*
Analyst's comment: MOST SATISFACTORY. The fluorine figures are slightly higher than in most waters we have examined so far, but still so low as to be negligible.

Sample of Markham Bottom Supply (Wroughton).

Source: Spring. Chlorinated.
Sample taken from: Markham Reservoir, Church Hill, Wroughton. 7.11.1956.
Appearance: Clear and Bright. No smell.
Reaction: *pH 7.20 Fluoride as F. 0.11 p.p. million.*
Analyst's comment: MOST SATISFACTORY showing little variation from previous analyses.

Sample of Ogbourne Supply (Swindon Borough Council).

Source: Borehole. Chlorinated.
Sample taken from: 42, Station Road, Chisledon. 29.10.1956.
Appearance: Clear and Bright. No smell. Fair amount of fine suspended matter.
Reaction: *pH 7.0 Fluoride as F. 0.12 p.p. million.*
Analyst's comment: This sample is very pure organically with a high free carbon dioxide content. It may well be aggressive to copper pipes. The fluoride content is very low indeed as is usual in this area.

Sample of Ham Road Supply (Wanborough).

Source: Borehole. Chlorinated.
Sample taken from: Pumphouse, Ham Road, Wanborough.
Appearance: Clear, Colourless, No smell, Slight rusty sediment.
Reaction: *pH. 7.2 Fluoride as F. 0.1 p.p. million.*
Analyst's comment: I have carefully compared the results with those of eight other samples examined for you and dating back to 1951. The principal changes are:—

- (1) An increase in free and saline ammonia. This happened once before (8.10.52) and was then accompanied by a considerable rise in "oxygen absorbed" and nitric nitrogen which has not

happened in this case. Such amounts of ammonia can arise from chemical reduction of nitrate by metal fittings and pipes may well have been the cause in this case. Provided bacteriological results are satisfactory, there is in my view no cause for anxiety.

- (2) The permanent hardness has disappeared. It fell very low (11 and 12 p.p. million) on 14.9.51 and 30.12.53, and no very great change is required to reduce it to zero.

This has no bearing on wholesomeness, but suggests that a natural softening process may be in operation underground. The fact that the alkalinity is greater than the total hardness (both expressed as calcium carbonate) suggests the replacement of calcium bicarbonate by sodium bicarbonate. This, of course, is not uncommon, but it is not easy to see why it should take place on this particular sample.

Sample of Latton Supply (Swindon Borough Council).

Source: Borehole. Chlorinated.
Sample taken from: 17, Ermin Street Villas, Blunsdon St. Andrew.
17.11.1956.
Appearance: Clear and Bright.
Reaction: 7.3 *Fluoride as F.* 0.61 *p.p. million.*
Analyst's comment: This sample shows rather more "free and saline" ammonia than in past analyses. I do not regard this as very significant as the albuminoid ammonia and nitrate are very low and the chlorine quite normal. Such amounts of free ammonia can easily be produced by reduction of nitrate through contact with metal fittings. The fluoride content is higher than we have found in the areas in which we are interested. Most waters which we have examined contain less than 0.2 p.p. million. As you will know, there is a movement to add fluoride so as to bring *the amount up to 1 p.p. million.*

Sample of Ashton Keynes Supply (Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C.).

Source: Borehole. Chlorinated.
Sample taken from: The Short Row, Castle Eaton. 27.11.1956.
Appearance: Clear and Bright.
Analyst's comment: This sample is very similar to previous samples analysed. The "oxygen absorbed" is higher but it is unaccompanied by any rise in chloride or nitrate, and the albuminoid ammonia is very low. It is probably due to a little ferrous iron. The water is very pure organically.

INVESTIGATION UPON THE POSSIBILITY OF POLLUTION OF WATER SUPPLIES DUE TO THE BURIAL OF CARCASSES AFTER SLAUGHTER FOR FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

In late September 1956, it was brought to the notice of this and the adjoining Authority that due to Foot and Mouth Disease, animals had been slaughtered and buried in the Water Shed Area of both Authorities. It was feared that this could cause pollution of the Water Supplies in the area of the burials.

Consultations with the Ministry officials took place in Swindon at which, unfortunately, the Medical Officer of Health and myself were not present, but it was decided by the Medical Officer and myself that a full sampling procedure of investigation should be carried out and samples from each source should be submitted both for Bacteriological and Chemical examination for comparison with previous known results of the same water supplies, and that the samples should be taken over an extended period before conclusions were arrived at which would be justifiable in all the circumstances.

It was known from unofficial sources only, as no official contact at that time was made with the Local Authority Officers by any officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, that Foot and Mouth Disease had occurred just outside the Council's area on two farms, and on some seventeen farms and smallholdings within the Council's district.

The slaughtered animals were buried on the farms at the commencement and the burials at four of the farms, it was felt, could affect the water supplies at source. Two were Public Supplies at Gadbourne and Markham Bottom (Wroughton), owned by the Highworth Rural District Council; a Public Supply at Overtown, owned by the Swindon Borough Authority, and three were Private Supplies. The burials were at varying distances from the sources mentioned, being from $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles distant as the crow flies. At a later date the animals at two farms in the area were dug up and burnt.

The sampling procedure was delayed between the 21st and 26th September, due to the heavy chlorination which took place following the meeting with the Ministry Officials and before judgment could be arrived at it was necessary to have a true assessment of the previous results obtained from the supplies now likely to be affected. Regular sampling over the past ten years was most helpful and this showed that all the supplies at source, except one, were likely to pollution and the degree of pollution was known.

In all some 37 samples, chemical and bacteriological, were taken and the results were communicated to the Chemical Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Whitehall, S.W.1, (at his request), but to date none of his observations and findings have been received by the officers of this Authority.

A full and detailed Report of all the information obtained from the investigation was submitted to the Local Authority and it was felt, particularly by the writer, that no serious increased pollution had taken place in the water supplies, but the full impact of the pollution risks at Gadbourne and Markham Bottom was brought home to the Authority and it was agreed to dispense with these supplies as mains supplies at a very early date, and in addition, to extend the mains, if possible, to cover the area supplied by the three Private Supplies, or to give serious consideration, if this was not possible, to efficient, automatic chlorination to at least the larger of these supplies with a similar extension of the mains supplies to the other small areas.

The benefits of regular routine sampling both chemical and bacteriological and the interpretation of the results obtained would, on occasions like this, appear to make the work and the time necessary to do the sampling fully justifiable.

Water Samples taken in the Parishes of Wroughton and Chisledon during the Foot and Mouth Outbreak Period.

Parish	Bacteriological Samples taken	Number Unsatisfactory
Wroughton. .	51	31
Chisledon . .	16	2

Parish	Chemical Samples taken	Number Unsatisfactory
Wroughton. .	6	—
Chisledon . .	5	—

WATERCRESS BEDS

In the Council's area in the Parish of Bishopstone are a series of Watercress Beds used by various occupiers of land adjoining the Beds, and during the year a series of test samples were taken of the water supply to these Beds at source and at each Watercress Bed downstream from the source. It was found that while the source of supply which is an Artesian Overflow, was pure, the Beds showed progressively increasing pollution with Fæcal Coli to the extent of 180+ per 100 ml. of water sampled.

The details were submitted by the Council to the Ministry of Health for that Ministry's guidance, and we were informed that as the Minister of Health knew of little evidence to incriminate Watercress as a source of enteric disease, the view was taken that the risk to public health was not sufficient to justify special measures for the control of Watercress Beds and that the position should remain governed by the general law in Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

It would, therefore, appear that no useful purpose could now be served by the Department further sampling the Watercress Beds and only when the Watercress is incriminated as a cause of enteric disease should further action be taken. This is indeed very enlightening to the writer and would suggest to me that the action under Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 could not succeed unless persons had suffered from enteric disease and this could clearly be proved by the eating of Watercress from these beds.

While the Department realises the problem of polluted Watercress Beds, it is therefore left without further action and the stable door will have to be left open until the horse decides to go.

SECTION TWO

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND FOOD SHOPS

Number of Premises Registered under the Provisions of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Number of Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	15
Number of Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	1
Number of Premises registered for the sale of prepacked ice-cream	65
Number of Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954	5
Total number of Premises registered	86
Number of Inspections carried out at Registered Food Premises	158
Total Number of Food Premises of all types in the District as shown by type of business on Page No. 34	227

On the 1st January, 1956, the Food (Hygiene) Regulations 1955, and the Food and Drugs Act 1955, came into operation. The Regulations, which deal with Food Hygiene only, replaced Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, and extended the requirements of Section 13, with particular reference to the provision requiring washing facilities for food handlers and the provision of sinks for the washing of food and equipment used on food premises. In addition, the Regulations require that food exposed for sale is protected from the risk of contamination. The Regulations and the Food Byelaws should ensure a general improvement in Food Hygiene standards for all time.

In January 1956, all occupiers of Food Premises in the district were circularised giving them precise details of the provisions of the Food (Hygiene) Regulations and requesting their co-operation with regard to the requirements. The response to this was most helpful and much advice was requested and given by the Department even before inspections began. Actual inspection was made of all Food Premises, except the Licensed Premises, and where contraventions were found, the occupiers were informed by Notice of the items requiring attention.

Of the 175 Food Premises inspected, 128 did not comply with all the Regulations. The main contraventions were in respect of washing facilities for staff and the washing of equipment. Applications for Exemptions were considered by a Committee of the Council, and the full details of exemptions granted and refused are as appended below. The majority of exemptions granted was in the provision

of a separate sink for the washing of food and equipment where the equipment used was very limited and a household sink was available, and in cases of small family businesses where the washing facilities were fully provided in the house or bathroom on the first floor.

The response from Food Traders was good and at the end of 1956, 91 Notices had been complied with and the remaining 37 outstanding Notices were in hand or nearing completion. While these works will bring the premises up to the required standards, food hygiene essentially depends on the food handlers and frequent visits will be necessary until the provisions affecting food handlers are understood by the food handlers and are complied with in all respects.

It is hoped in 1957, to concentrate more on the Food Vehicles, and the Licensed Premises, but the inspection of all types of Food Premises must of necessity continue.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955. DETAILS OF EXEMPTIONS GRANTED AS AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

Parish	Reg. 16(1) & (2) Prov. of Wash- hand Basins, Hot Water, etc.	Reg. 16 (2) Prov. of Hot Water	Reg. 19.1 (a) & (b) Prov. of Sinks, Hot Water etc.	Reg. 15 Water Supply	Total Exemp- tion Forms Received
Bishopstone	1	—	2	—	2
Blunsdon	2	—	1	—	2
Chisledon	1	—	4	—	4
Hannington	1	—	1	—	1
Haydon Wick. . . .	2	—	—	1	2
Highworth	4	1	8	—	9
Stanton Fitzwarren .	1	—	1	—	2
Stratton St. Margaret	4	—	11	—	13
Wanborough	1	—	2	—	2
Wroughton	1	—	11	—	11
TOTAL	18	1	41	1	48

DETAILS OF EXEMPTIONS REFUSED AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

Highworth	2	—	—	—	2
Stratton St. Margaret	2	—	—	—	2
Wroughton	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	5	—	—	—	5

BAKEHOUSES

All the Bakehouses in the District are regularly inspected in detail and during the year two Bakehouses were found not complying with the Regulations and informal action has been taken to improve facilities and cleanliness.

BUTCHERS' SHOPS

There are nine Butchers' shops in the District which are regularly inspected. The standards maintained are good.

CAFES

There are only five Cafes and one Transport Cafe in the District, and these have been maintained in a satisfactory manner during the year.

ICE-CREAM—SAMPLING AND STORAGE

Although there is one premise registered for the manufacture of ice-cream by cold mix method, there was no ice-cream manufactured in the District during the year. All ice-cream sold is prepacked and stored in accordance with The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947. It was not found possible to take any samples of ice-cream during the year, but regular inspection has been made of all the premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949-1954

Number of Dairies registered at 31.12.1956	5
Number of Distributors registered at 31.12.1956	13
Number of Producer Retailers registered at 31.12.1956	11
Number of Visits to Dairies, re supplies and samples, etc.	131

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Number of Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk at 31.12.1956	11
Number of Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk at 31.12.1956	9
Number of Dealers licensed to sell Sterilised Milk at 31.12.1956	3
Number of Dealers granted Supplementary Licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk at 31.12.1956	7
Number of Dealers granted Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk at 31.12.1956	6
Number of Dealers granted Supplementary Licences to sell Sterilised Milk at 31.12.1956	2
Total Number of Licences issued at 31.12.1956	38

DETAILS OF MILK SAMPLES TAKEN AND SUBMITTED FOR METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST AND/OR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Designation	Methylene Blue Reduction Test				Biological Examination			
	Samples Taken	Number Passed	Number Failed	Number Void	Samples Taken	Negative	Positive	Void
Tuberculin Tested . .	47	40	7	—	17	17	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised . .	6	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised . .	5	1	—	4	—	—	—	—
Ungraded Milk . .	38	26	12	—	13	13	—	—
TOTAL . .	96	71	19	6	30	30	—	—

The reduction in the number of Milk Samples taken and submitted for examination during 1956, was in the main due to reduction in Staff over the year, and in addition due to the inadequacy of guinea pigs at the laboratory, thereby reducing the number of biological samples which could be taken.

The results of the samples taken were satisfactory over the year and the absence of any positive tuberculosis samples was reassuring.

During the year the Council were informed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food that their District was in the area to be declared by the Ministry to be a “Designated Area for the Sale of Milk” and that the appointed day would not be earlier than the 1st April, 1957.

DETAILS OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT SUBJECT TO THE FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955.

	Bishopstone	Blunsdon	Castle Eaton	Chisledon	Hannington	Haydon Wick	Highworth	Inglesham	Liddington	South Marston	Stanton Fitzwarren	Stratton St. Margaret	Wanborough	Wroughton	TOTAL
General Provisions . . .	3	5	1	7	1	2	9	1	1	1	1	26	4	14	76
Sweets, Confectionery & Ice Cream . . .	—	1	—	1	—	1	5	—	—	—	1	4	—	1	14
Butchers . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	9
Cooked Meats . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Greengrocers . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	6
Bakers . . .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	9
Wet and Fried Fish . .	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	6
Cafes . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Chemists . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Wholesale Stores . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Poultry Packers . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Manufacturing Premises	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Transport Cafes . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1
Hostels . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
School Meals Cooking Depot . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
School Canteens . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Schools where meals are taken . . .	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	4	15
Works Canteens . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	8
Hospitals . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Clubs . . .	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	10
Licensed Premises & Off Licences . . .	2	2	1	6	2	2	9	—	2	2	—	10	7	7	52
TOTAL . . .	7	12	3	22	3	8	36	3	4	8	2	69	14	36	227

MEAT INSPECTION

St. Margaret Wiltshire Bacon Factory, Stratton St. Margaret

During the year, inspection ante mortem and post mortem of the 30,661 Pigs slaughtered at this Bacon Factory has been carried out, being 100% inspection. The number of pigs slaughtered during 1956 showed a reduction of 1,061 pigs and this could have been due in some measure to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the area during September, and a similar outbreak in Essex from where many of the pigs are received for slaughter.

The year showed an increase in the number of pigs slaughtered for pork only as against bacon pigs and as the line system is used at the factory, the killing of pigs for pork slows up the inspection methods, but very little overtime was worked and the Inspector's duties in the main were confined to the reasonable office hours from Monday to Thursday, with only occasional slaughter on Friday or Saturday.

Blood and plasma are collected at the factory and a system has been evolved whereby all blood or plasma from diseased animals is immediately rejected and disposed of under the Meat Inspection Provisions. All condemned carcasses or offal are removed daily from the factory to a local destruction plant.

The Meat Inspector is present throughout the whole period of slaughter and details of all animals condemned due to generalised tuberculosis are notified to the Area Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whose officers visit the owners and give such advice or carry out such inspections as are necessary, and I would like to place on record again my appreciation of the excellent co-operation during the year by the Local Ministry Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. Leckie; also the Area Office Veterinary Surgeons and the Meat Inspectors and the Public Health Department.

During the year improvements and modernisation of the Bacon Factory continued satisfactorily and a Pig-head Washer and Blood-Plasma Centrifuge Machine were installed, and it is hoped that during 1957 experiments will be carried out for the efficient steam sterilisation of knives and other utensils which would dispense with the present method of sterilisation by quaternary ammonium compound as fluid sterilisation.

It seems regrettable that no effective means of transport is available to prevent the loss of pigs due to suffocation during warm weather. During the year, all cases of cruelty were notified to the R.S.P.C.A. officer, Mr. Hussey, who took very prompt action in all cases reported to him, and my appreciation and thanks should be recorded. One haulier has been stopped from transporting pigs to the Factory and one has received a very strong warning, to mention only two cases which Mr. Hussey has dealt with for the Department.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) .	89	7	29	295	30,736	—
Number Inspected	89	7	29	295	30,736	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	37	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	14	4	—	9	5,179	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .	15·6	57·1	—	3·0	16·9	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	27	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	1,435	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3·3	—	—	—	4·7	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSE, HIGHWORTH

The quality of the animals slaughtered at this slaughterhouse is reflected in the small amount of meat or offal condemned. One case of cysticercus bovis was found during the year.

Details of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected

Cows 7	Bullocks 22	Heifers 67	Calves 27	Pigs 71	Sheep and Lambs 295
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Found Unfit for Human Consumption

Meat 150 lbs.	Offal 236 lbs.	Total 386 lbs.
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Other Animals Inspected for Slaughter or Casualty Cattle

Pigs 4	Calves 2
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Found Unfit for Human Consumption

Meat 43 lbs.	Offal 17 lbs.	Total 60 lbs.
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UN SOUND FOOD

(a) St. Margaret Wiltshire Bacon Factory

64 Complete carcasses and organs	2,775 Pig lungs
896½ lbs. part carcasses	469 Pig hearts
1,086 Pig heads	226 Pig spleens
204 Complete plucks	402 Pig guts
741 Pig livers	369 Pig flecks
1,663 Pig kidneys	1,334 Gallons of blood

(b) In addition during the year, the following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption and surrender notes were issued to the retailers concerned.

212 lbs. Hindquarter New Zealand Ox Beef	88 lbs. Chinese egg albumen
68 lbs. 9 oz. of Bacon	67 lbs. Luncheon Meat
5 lbs. 2 oz. of Cooked Meat	1 lb. 8 oz. Minced Beef Loaf
59 lbs. of Lamb	17 lb. 9 oz. Corned Beef
6¾ lbs. Butter	6 lbs. Beans in Tomato Sauce
36 lbs. Margarine	3 lbs. 8 oz. Runner Beans
728 lbs. Polish liquid frozen egg	10½ oz. Broad Beans
28 lbs. Australian frozen liquid whole egg	13 lbs. 11 oz. Tinned Peas
44 lbs. Australian frozen egg whites	14 oz. Peeled Tomatoes
272 lbs. Chinese frozen liquid whole egg	25 lbs. 6 oz. Cherries
	15 lbs. Raspberries
	2 lbs. 6 oz. Pears in Syrup
	2 lbs. 10 oz. Oranges
	3½ Pints Condensed Milk
	41 Trays of Bar Sponge Cakes

SECTION 3. PUBLIC HEALTH: GENERAL INFECTIOUS DISEASE ENQUIRIES

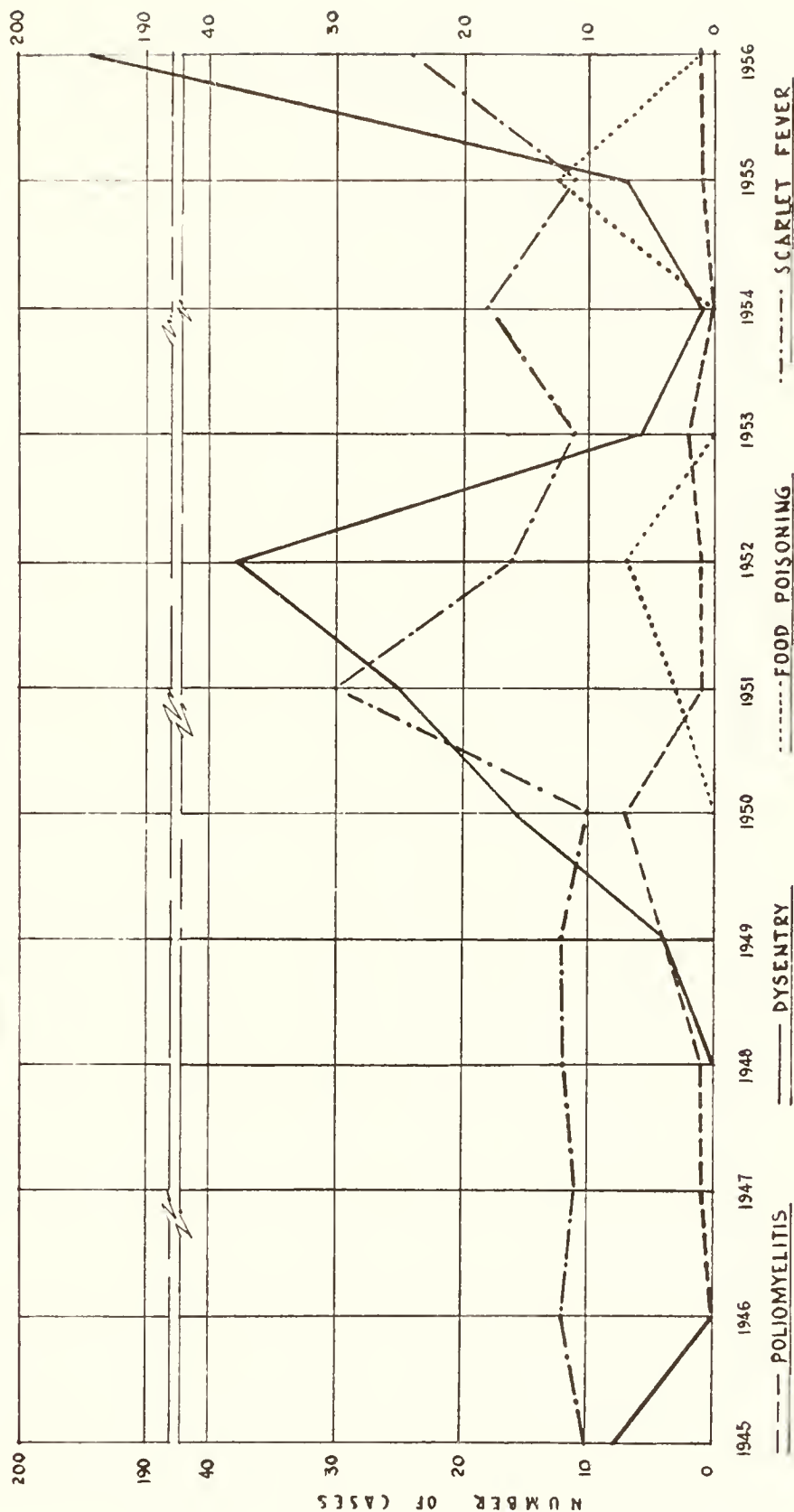
Parish	1956	1955
Bishopstone	Nil	1 Scarlet Fever
Blunsdon	Nil	1 Scarlet Fever
Castle Eaton	Nil	Nil
Chisledon	66 Dysentery	4 Scarlet Fever
	1 Acute Enteritis	4 Dysentery
	5 Scarlet Fever	2 Acute Enteritis
Hannington	Nil	Nil
Haydon Wick	Nil	Nil
Highworth	1 Dysentery	Nil
	2 Scarlet Fever	
Inglesham	Nil	Nil
Liddington	1 Dysentery	1 Enteric Fever
South Marston	Nil	Nil
Stanton Fitzwarren	Nil	Nil
Stratton St. Margaret	2 Dysentery	1 Poliomyelitis
		5 Scarlet Fever
		1 Erysipelas
		2 Food Poisoning
Wanborough	1 Scarlet Fever	Nil
	1 Dysentery	
Wroughton	5 Scarlet Fever	1 Dysentery
	123 Dysentery	
	1 Food Poisoning	
	1 Poliomyelitis	
TOTAL	210 Cases	23 Cases

The large increase in the number of cases of dysentery occurred principally in the months of February and March, and mainly in children of school age in the parishes of Chisledon and Wroughton. At first the outbreak was thought to be due to influenza, but laboratory investigations revealed the organism responsible to be *Shigella Sonnei*. The outbreak was of a mild nature and responded rapidly to treatment.

This outbreak entailed one Inspector working full-time for over a month, carrying out investigations, collecting faeces samples and offering the necessary health propaganda to all families where the patients were visited.

SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS

1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956



FACTORIES ACT, 1937
LIST OF FACTORIES IN THE DISTRICT

Aero Manufacturers and Repairs	2
Agricultural Crop Driers	1
Animal Residuals	1
Basket Maker	1
Bakers and Confectioners	9
Brewing and Mineral Waters	2
Brickmaking	1
Bacon Curing	1
Blacksmiths	4
Boot Repairs	3
Cabinet Making and Carpentry	4
Corn and Seed Depot	1
Concrete Block Making	1
Electronics	1
Engineering, including Repairs to Motor Vehicles	28
Firewood Merchants	2
Food Canning	1
Founders and Welders	1
Gut Scraper	1
Joinery, Wheelwrights, Undertakers, Woodworkers	8
Letter File Making	1
Laundry	1
Mat and Rug Manufacturing	1
Metal Sorting	4
Motor Body and Caravan Builders	2
Pig Food Processor	1
Radio, Television and Repairs	2
Saddlers	2
Sausage Making	1
Saw Mills	1
Tailoring	2
Upholstering	1
Wooden Box Manufacturers	1
 Total	 93

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

(1) Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occu- piers Prose- cuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	13	—	—
Factories not included in above, in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	78	97	2	—
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-Workers' premises) .	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	93	110	2	—

(2) Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspec.	Referred by H.M. Inspec.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were institd.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	9	9	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not incl. Outworkers)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	15	15	—	—	—

OUTWORKERS

During the year 19 Outworkers were notified and the home conditions were inspected in each case. The homework carried out was Glove making, Tailoring and Letter File making. The conditions in all homes were found to be satisfactory.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 50

During the year it was necessary to arrange for the burial of two persons under the terms of the National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS

Detailed inspections of the School Meals Depot and School Canteens were made at intervals during the year. The conditions were found to be satisfactory and the Food Hygiene Regulations are being complied with.

The facilities in some of the smaller country schools are still unsatisfactory, meals are often taken in classrooms, and the facilities for keeping food hot between the time of delivery and consumption are inadequate.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

It was not found possible to inspect the shops other than Food Shops during the year. In the case of food premises, defects under the above Act were remedied as a result of informal action.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are two Offensive Trades established within the District:

- (1) Marshgate Works, Stratton Road, Stratton St. Margaret, involving tallow melting and bone boiling in conjunction with a knacker's yard established prior to 1900. This knacker's yard has been inspected regularly by the Public Health Department Staff and the whole of the slaughter hall walls have been re-surfaced with white glazed bricks, new floors laid and lairage provided. Improvements were also carried out to the gut room and welfare room, etc.
- (2) Premises off Swindon Road, Wroughton, for gut scraping, licensed in 1907.

During the year some nuisance was caused by the Marshgate Works by odours from the processing plant. Following investigation into methods of preventing and dealing with the problem, the firm experimented with the use of deodorant pellets which have not proved entirely successful.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933. SECTION 3

The number of slaughtermen granted licences by this Authority to slaughter or stun animals was 22 on the 1st January, 1957.

I am pleased to say that there were no complaints in respect of any person holding such a licence during the year. All new applicants have to satisfy my Inspectors that they are capable of carrying out their work in a proper and humane manner.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936. SECTION 269 MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CARAVAN SITES

Number of Individual Licences issued during 1956	34
Number of Licences refused on Public Health grounds	—
Number of Site licences issued	—
Number of Individual Caravans sited as at 31.12.1956	34
Number of Site Licences as at 31.12.1956	5
Number of Caravans on Licensed Sites as at 31.12.1956	100
Number of Visits paid (including visits to casual campers)	416

SUMMARY OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS SITED IN THE DISTRICT GIVING DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

Parish	Caravans with Ind. Licences						Caravans on Licensed Sites					
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Bishopstone	3	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blunsdon	3	4	5	3	3	3	10	10	34	42	61	62
Castle Eaton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chisledon	3	4	4	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haydon Wick	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Highworth	4	7	3	3	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inglesham	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	10	10	10	10	10
Liddington	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Marston	2	—	1	2	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strat. St. Marg.	25	25	15	17	18	19	—	—	—	—	8	12
Wanborough	3	2	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wroughton	5	13	5	7	3	2	—	—	—	—	14	16
TOTAL	50	59	37	36	35	34	20	20	44	52	93	100

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

During 1956, a weekly collection was maintained throughout the District.

The labour problem, although difficult at the beginning of the year, gradually eased until at the latter end of 1956, a list of names was held pending vacancies. This was not entirely due to redundancy in the area, but to the increase in wages approved and granted by the Council, making the wage more attractive and bringing it into line with other employment. This is of assistance to the Department in that the right type of man can be employed for the work.

A fire affecting parts of the Wroughton tip was completely sealed with clay with help from Messrs. Hill & Sons by means of their bulldozer. This has completely covered all refuse to a depth of several feet and reduces the risk of further fires considerably. It has also made the task of rodent control easier.

The contract for the Wroughton R.A.F. Hospital, which expired in June, was again tendered for, together with the U.S.A.A.F. Hospital, Burderop Park, but in each case was not successful. However, a smaller contract was obtained for the collection of trade refuse from the Pressed Steel Factory at Stratton St. Margaret, and the two existing contracts, namely Headlands Bakery and St. Margaret Wiltshire Bacon Factory, were renewed.

STAFF ENGAGED ON REFUSE COLLECTION

Foreman, three Divers, six Loaders, one Tipman.

VEHICLES

Diesel	1 Dennis Paxit	Acquired 24/8/1953
Petrol	1 Dennis 12 cu. yd.	Acquired 31/5/1951
Petrol	1 Dennis 10 cu. yd.	Acquired 7/9/1948
Number of houses in the District		6,446
Size of District		48,549 Acres
Number of Business Premises, Industrial, etc.		330
Refuse Disposal—Controlled Tip at Wroughton		
Method of Collection—Kerbside: Weekly		
Estimated quantity of refuse collected		6,350 tons
Overall cost of service		£ 7430.
Cost per premises per annum		£ 1.4.0.

The necessity for Gammexane treatment during the whole of 1956 at the Wroughton Refuse Tip for flies and crickets was slight, due to the weather conditions. It would appear that the benefits obtained by the use of Gammexane as a regular weekly treatment on the Refuse Tip are not seen immediately and that the deposits of Gammexane give results over longer periods than recognised at the present time. This, in my view, is shown quite clearly on tips regularly treated in the reduction of flies and crickets during the Summer season, while untreated tips show heavy incidence of both flies and crickets.

SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Material	1955			1956		
	Weight T. C. Q. lbs	Value £ s. d.			Weight T. C. Q. lbs	Value £ s. d.
Paper	54 17 - 21	285	3	8	51 12 3 21	332 18 10
Metal	9 17 1 -	36	8	5	6 8 2 -	26 4 5
Rags	- - - -	-	-	-	- 2 - 14	2 11 0
TOTAL	64 14 1 21	321	12	1	58 3 2 7	361 14 3

The collection, sorting and baling of waste paper was continued throughout 1956, and shows a slight increase in value on the figure for the preceding year, although the tonnage was rather less.

The contract with buyers which expired in September 1956, has been renewed for a further twelve months, and without such contract, sorting and baling would not be a worthwhile proposition with such a fluctuating market.

Taking the figures of the past six years for the sales of salvage, they show a total of approximately £2,850 with little outlay, this helps considerably with the continual rise in the overall cost of the refuse service.

VEHICLE WORKINGS

Vehicle	Engine	Mileage	Fuel consumpt. No. Galls.	Fuel Cost £ s. d.	Miles per Gall.	Fuel cost per mile
Paxit	Diesel	9168	1022	183 9 2	8.9	4.8d.
10 cu.yd.	Petrol	10200	1824	350 19 7	5.5	8.25d.
12 cu.yd.	Petrol	12815	1904	363 10 10½	6.7	6.8d.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 Record of Local Authority Control During 1956

Property	Inspections and visits made	Properties Treated	Infestn. Analysis		
			Rats		Mice
			Major	Minor	
Council Houses . . .	29	9	—	3	6
Council Sewage Works, Tips, etc. . .	32	3	1	2	—
Private Dwellings . .	173	38	—	32	6
Business Premises . .	64	8	1	7	—
Agricultural Proper- ties	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	298	58	2	44	12

The systematic prebaiting and poison baiting of all the Council's sewers systems as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, and Fisheries Infestation Control Division, was carried out during the year. The poisons used were zinc phosphide and arsenic, and with some success. A careful check is being kept on sewers on large housing estates which could so easily be overlooked as being too new to be infested, but recent infestations have shown these sewers to be just as likely to infestation if not regularly treated.

The infestations reported during the year were low and this reflects the benefits derived from the use of Warfarin in the required strength for all infestations other than sewers.

During the year the Council assisted the Infestation Control Division in the carrying out of the census of rats and mice in ricks and useful information was obtained.

FUMIGATION FOR VERMIN INSECTS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 18 premises were treated by the usual insecticides and fumigants for infestation of the following pests:—

Fleas	2	Cockroach	3
Crickets	10	Infectious Diseases	3

PUBLIC HEALTH AMENDMENT ACT 1907 REGISTRATION OF OLD METAL AND MARINE STORE DEALERS

Under the provisions of Section 86 of the Public Health Amendment Act 1907, there are now eight persons or companies registered within the district, and below is a list of the names and the situation of their place of business.

Date of Registration	Name and Address	Business Address	Permanent or Non-Permanent
20/4/53	N. Loveridge, The Green Garage, Swindon Road, Stratton.	The Green Garage, Swindon Road, Stratton.	Permanent
2/5/53	L. Bibby, The Paddock, Ermin Street, Stratton.	The Paddock, Ermin Street, Stratton.	Permanent
12/5/53	Coopers (Metals) Ltd., Marshgate Works, Stratton.	Marshgate Works, Stratton Road, Stratton.	Permanent
12/5/53	Coopers (Swindon) Ltd., Marshgate Works, Stratton.	Marshgate Works, Stratton Road, Stratton.	Permanent
13/5/53	C. Dibben, Badbury Cottage, Chisledon.	Badbury Cottage, Chisledon.	Permanent
30/4/54	J. Wheeler, 26, Swindon Street, Highworth.	Swindon Street, Highworth.	Permanent
16/6/54	R. J. Coley & Son (Swindon) Ltd., 112, Oxford Road, Swindon.	Slade Works, 112, Oxford Road, Swindon.	Permanent
15/9/54	Wessex Metals Limited, 8, Marlborough Road, Wroughton.	8, Marlborough Rd., Wroughton.	Permanent

One Metal Dealer's name was removed from the Register during the year.

PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACTS 1928 and 1936

Below is a table giving particulars, in Parish order, of the number of licences granted, the quantity stored and the number of filling stations and private stores within the District.

Parish	Number of Licences	Quantity Stored Galls.	Total Stored Galls.
Bishopstone	6 Private Stores	1,550	1,550
Blunsdon	3 Private Stores	850	
	1 Filling Station	3,000	3,850
Castle Eaton	1 Private Store	500	500
Chisledon	4 Private Stores	1,200	
	3 Filling Stations	8,000	9,200
Haydon Wick	1 Private Store	250	250
Highworth	9 Private Stores	3,250	
	3 Filling Stations	3,600	6,850
Liddington	2 Private Stores	750	750
South Marston	3 Private Stores	22,500	
	1 Filling Station	2,000	24,500
Stratton St. Margaret . . .	14 Private Stores	15,750	
	8 Filling Stations	11,300	27,050
Wanborough	6 Private Stores	1,950	
	2 Filling Stations	1,800	3,750
Wroughton	7 Private Stores	3,650	
	2 Filling Stations	3,100	6,750
TOTAL	76 Licences	85,000	85,000

Total quantity in gallons Licensed for Private Users 52,200

Total quantity in gallons licensed for Filling Stations 32,800

Grand Total of quantity licensed 85,000

Number of Licences in respect of Private Stores 56

Number of Licences in respect of Filling Stations 20

Total number of Licences issued 76

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

Chisledon	1 Private Store	2,240 lbs.
Stratton St. Margaret	1 Private Store	44,800 lbs.
TOTAL	2 Licences	47,040 lbs.

Total number of Inspections to all the above premises
during the year 11

DRAINAGE WORKS

Supervised by the Public Health Department in 1956. Does not include works in connection with Improvement Grants.

Parish	New Drainage provided	W.C.s installed	Bathroom installed	Sink Provided
Bishopstone	1	—	—	—
Castle Eaton	4	4	—	4
Chisledon	3	—	1	—
Haydon Wick	—	1	—	1
Highworth	—	3	2	1
Liddington	2	—	1	—
Stratton St. Margaret . . .	15	76	2	21
Wroughton	1	6	3	—
TOTAL.	26	90	9	27

SECTION FOUR

HOUSING

HOUSING ACTS 1936/1954

Following the Survey of Houses in 1954/1955, and the submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government of the Slum Clearance programme, the Council aimed at dealing with a total of 348 unfit houses in a period of seven years.

Good progress has been made during 1956 to meet this aim and a total of 52 houses were represented for action. This, together with the heartening response by owners to renovate and improve their houses with the aid of Improvement Grants, has meant that the problem of sub-standard and unfit houses is being dealt with on a realistic basis for the first time since 1945.

Steady progress was maintained in rehousing families and nineteen families were rehoused in Council houses during the year. Nevertheless, 53 families awaited rehousing from unfit houses at the end of 1956.

As the Council's building programme has been seriously curtailed because the high interest rate makes for ever increasing rents, a large percentage of the houses built in the next few years will be required for rehousing of families from unfit houses.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPROVED DURING 1956

	Number of Properties	Estimated Cost of Works	Amount Ranking for Grant
Improvement Grants completed	45	£29,607	£23,736
Improvement Grants in hand	69	£46,987	£38,236
Schemes agreed by Local Authority but withdrawn by Owners	2	£754	£662

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS 1936/1954 FROM 1945 to 1956.

		Bishopstone	Blunsdon St. Andrew	Castle Eaton	Chisledon	Hannington	Haydon Wick	Highworth	Inglesham	Liddington	South Marston	Stanton Fitzwarren	Stratton St. Margaret	Wanborough	Wroughton	Total	Grand Total
No. of Houses represented under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936	1945/55	2	19	1	15	—	4	37	1	3	1	7	14	3	37	144	-196
	1956	10	4	9	14	—	—	3	2	—	1	—	6	3	—	52	
No. of Demolition Orders made	1945/55	—	13	—	15	—	3	12	1	3	1	—	8	3	21	80	
	1956	2	2	—	13	—	—	11	2	—	—	—	2	2	1	35	115
No. of Closing Orders made	1945/55	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
	1956	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
No. of Houses Licensed for temporary occupation	31.12.56	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	5	
No. of Undertakings Accepted	1945/55	2	5	1	—	—	1	7	—	1	—	7	3	—	14	41	56
	1956	—	1	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	15	
No. of Undertakings Cleared	1945/55	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	13
	1956	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	
No. of Houses Demolished	1945/55	—	4	—	4	—	3	6	—	2	—	—	6	2	16	43	49
	1956	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	
No. of Houses awaiting rehousing of Occupants	31.12.56	2	3	3	16	—	—	14	—	—	1	5	7	1	1	53	
No. of Houses vacant awaiting demolition	31.12.56	—	9	—	4	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	29	

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1956

1. Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year:	
By Local Authority	194
By Private Enterprise	98
 2. Inspection of Dwellings during the year	
Inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts	293
Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts	162
Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	55
Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	281
 3. Remedy of Defects by Informal Action	
Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	266
 4. Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act 1936	
Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
By Owners	Nil
By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
 (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served	Nil
Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
By Owners	Nil
By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936	
Number of houses represented as being unfit for human habitation	52
Number of Demolition Orders made	35
Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	6
Number of Undertakings accepted	15
Number of Undertakings completed	8
(d) Proceedings under Sections 25 and 26 of the Housing Act 1936	
	Nil
(e) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936	
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were cancelled as a result of premises having been made fit for human habitation	Nil
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953	
Closing Orders made under Sections 10 (1) . . .	Nil

5. Housing Act 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding

Number of Cases of overcrowded dwellings at the end of the year, 1956	9
Number of Cases discovered during the year	11
Number of Cases abated during the year	3

COUNCIL OWNED PROPERTY

1. Total number of Pre-war houses owned by Highworth Rural District Council	502
2. Total number of houses owned or administered by Council, 31.12.1956	1,969

TYPES OF HOUSES OWNED BY HIGHWORTH R.D.C., 31.12.1956

Traditional

Pre-War	475	
Wartime Agricultural	8	
Post-war houses	208	
Post-war flats	40	
Gregory flats	8	
Experimental houses (Chick)	6	
	<hr/>	745

Non-Traditional

Reema houses	327	
Reema flats	32	
Woolaway houses	76	
Cornish Unit houses	114	
Cornish flats	48	
Airey houses	156	
Swedish Timber houses	8	
	<hr/>	761

Bungalows

Originally erected by the Ministry of Aircraft Production	378	
	<hr/>	378

Old Age Bungalows

Pre-war	27	
Post-war	39	
	<hr/>	66

Miscellaneous Properties

Staff houses and flats	11	
Hutments	2	
Site houses	6	
Requisitioned houses	—	
	<hr/>	19

TOTAL	<hr/>	1,969
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HOUSING PROGRESS

No. of houses completed post-war by the Council	1,064
No. of houses completed post-war by Private Enterprise	420
	<hr/>
TOTAL	1,484

POST-WAR HOUSES. NUMBER COMPLETED YEARLY

Year	Private Enterprise	Council				Total
		Traditional		Non-Traditional		
		For Industry	Council Applic.	For Industry	Council Applic.	
1946	15	—	6	—	8	29
1947	13	—	27	—	—	40
1948	9	—	37	—	46	92
1949	11	—	8	—	96	115
1950	9	—	18	—	54	81
1951	7	2	19	16	66	110
1952	23	5	17	34	71	150
1953	31	7	23	41	120	222
1954	97	12	16	52	16	193
1955	107	3	13	36	1	160
1956	98	31	41	56	66	292
TOTAL	420	60	225	235	544	1484

Number of Houses under construction by the Council at the
31st December, 1956

TRADITIONAL — 14. NON-TRADITIONAL — 24.

HOUSING APPLICANTS
FAMILY DETAILS

		No. of Applicants				
		1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Single persons		8	12	8	6	37
Married couples		160	108	105	105	95
" " with 1 child		146	100	111	93	54
" " " 2 children		122	70	80	89	43
" " " 3 children		40	26	34	33	22
" " " 4 or more children		20	22	21	20	22

TYPES OF POST-WAR HOUSES BUILT IN EACH YEAR.

Year	Traditional	Airey	Swedish Timber	Woolaway	Reema	Cornish Unit	Gregory	Experi- men- tal (Chick)	TOTAL
1946 . .	6	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	14
1947 . .	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
1948 . .	37	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	83
1949 . .	8	96	—	—	—	—	—	—	104
1950 . .	18	14	—	—	10	30	—	—	72
1951 . .	21	—	—	22	20	38	—	2	103
1952 . .	22	—	—	30	52	12	8	3	127
1953 . .	30	—	—	24	104	32	—	1	191
1954 . .	28	—	—	—	14	54	—	—	96
1955 . .	16	—	—	—	37	—	—	—	53
1956 . .	72	—	—	—	122	—	—	—	194
TOTAL . .	285	156	8	76	359	156	8	6	1,064

STATISTICAL HOUSING DETAILS FOR ALL PARISHES 31.12.1956

Details of houses, etc., owned by Highworth Rural District Council.	<div> <div>No. of pre-war houses 502</div> <div>No. of wartime houses, temporary bungalows and site houses 403</div> <div>No. of post-war houses 1064</div> </div>										TOTAL 1969
New houses built in 1956 New houses built in 1955	<div> <div>By H.R.D.C. 194</div> <div>By H.R.D.C. 53</div> <div>By Private Enterprise 98</div> <div>By Private Enterprise 107</div> </div>										TOTAL TOTAL 292 160
Total applications renewed 31/12/1956. 273	<div> <div>Accommodation now used by Applicants</div> <div>Rooms 85</div> <div>Houses 171</div> <div>Flats 13</div> <div>Caravans 4</div> <div>Huts —</div> </div>										Number outside District 50
Population of District 22,890	<div> <div>Family Units involved in Applications 814</div> <div>% of population, 1956 3.56%</div> <div>% of population, 1955 5.09%</div> <div>% of population, 1954 5.44%</div> <div>% of population, 1953 4.96%</div> </div>										No of Old Age Bungalow Applications 45
Number of Applicants	<div> <div>SIZE OF FAMILY, DETAILS</div> <div>Single Man & Wife</div> <div>37 95 54 43 22 16 4</div> <div>&2C &3C. &4C &5C</div> <div>&6C &7C &8C</div> </div>										
	<div> <div>YEAR OF APPLICATION</div> <div>1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953</div> <div>2 — 2 6 6 9 24 26</div> <div>1954 1955 1956</div> <div>48 51 99</div> </div>										

